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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re the Application of: KATAOKA, Yoshinori, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2832

Serial No.: 10/645,853

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: August 22, 2003

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 8139

For:

SWITCH DEVICE, DATA-PROCESSING APPARATUS AND

PLAYBACK APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 21, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached, together with a copy of the European Search Report which issued for corresponding European patent application No. 03255234.1 on September 20, 2004.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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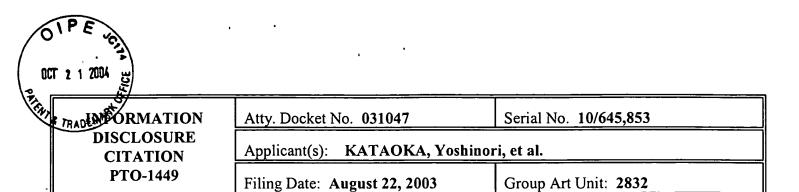
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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures:

European Search Report

PTO-1449 References (3)



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
 AF	2001-188539	7/10/01	Japan	Abstract only
 AG	10-199126	7/31/98	Japan	Abstract only
 AH	EP 0 973 162 A	1/19/00	EPO	
 AI				
 AJ				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

	AK	
	AL	
Examiner		Date Considered